

GAMBLING DEBTS VOID.

REMARKABLE SUIT AGAINST THE ESTATE OF A MILLIONAIRE.

Who Dropped \$53,000 in an Arkansas Brace Game—Recalling the Hot Springs Gamblers' Fight—The Principle's Testimony Surprises their Friends.

FREEMING, April 17.—A suit involving \$53,000 and interest from February 20, 1892, to date, entered by James E. H. Lane, of Hot Springs, Ark., against the executors of the late James H. Brown, the millionaire coal operator of this city, was put upon trial before Judge Ewing. Brown went to Hot Springs in February, 1892, for his health, and while there lost \$53,000 at the game table. He paid the whole amount except \$2,000, and for this the suit was instituted. The suit is a remarkable one in many respects, and particularly so because of the presence of Frank Flynn, who was one of the principals in the famous gamblers' fight at Hot Springs two years ago, and D. O. Kyle of the firm of Watson, Lane & Co., owners of the saloon in which Brown lost his money. Flynn testified that he had been a gambler, and was fond of gambling, but was forced to abandon the profession because he was no longer able to shuffle cards, owing to an injury to his arm, received in the fight at Hot Springs. He distinctly remembered the visit of James Brown to Hot Springs and his gambling exploits. Brown, he observed, went into the game by D. O. Kyle. Brown lost \$53,000 during his stay. The game was what was known as a brace game, which Brown could not possibly win. Brown was considerably under the influence of liquor, as applied by the house. He lost \$14,000 in three sittings—\$4,000 at the first, \$5,000 at the second and \$5,000 at the third. Witnesses were interested in the game to the extent of one third, and he received his share of the first \$4,000. His share in the remaining \$5,000 he sold to Lane for \$500, as he desired to go south, and Lane told him there was going to be trouble over that winning.

D. O. Kyle testified that he was a professional gambler, and in February, 1892, he was interested in the game run by Watson, Lane & Company. Brown, he said, was at Hot Springs. In obedience to Lane's instructions he steered Brown into the game. It was a brace game, at which it was impossible for Brown to win. Brown at the time was under the influence of liquor, and was drinking hard. All the whiskey he wanted to drink was given to him at the expense of the house. Brown's loss during that month was over \$53,000. After each sitting Lane would present Brown with a draft, which the latter would sign. That draft was collected through and in the name of a store at Hot Springs. Witness was of the opinion that the transaction did not appear the books at all. Oliver Leaton, cashier of the Iron City National bank of this city, testified to Brown having over \$53,000 on deposit when he went to Hot Springs, and to the money having been paid out to meet the drafts presented by the Hot Springs bank.

The testimony of Flynn and Kyle caused no little surprise among Lane's friends, who then admitted that the jig was up. To E. J. Smith, a St. Louis attorney, belongs the credit of procuring the testimony. He being employed by the Browns to perform that branch of the work. Upon this testimony, and on a deposition made by chief of police of Hot Springs, the case was rested. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the defendants. In charging the jury the judge said it should be remembered that under the laws of Arkansas gambling debts were void.

CARRIED OFF TO ENGLAND.

The Naturalized American Hangar Prisoner in Striving Castle.

NEW YORK, April 17.—Mrs. Mary Ireland wife of Robert Ireland, the hangar who was lured to Canada on March 19 and seized as a deserter from the British army, though he had been an American citizen for five years, showed Assistant District attorney Davis a letter from her husband dated April 2, aboard ship at Loch Lowrie, Derry, Ireland. In this letter Ireland writes:

The other to a man who deserted from the New York eighth regiment at Halifax are still on board. I deserted fourteen years ago, and the other twelve. Both have wives and children, where as I have five children. One of them is certainly released, as he is far advanced in consumption. I almost envy him. They were entrapped as I was, by promises of good situations. The well man's wife will join him in England, and it will be allowed to keep home with her after his punishment, which he will be light, or even. But a item signed a paper at the instigation of the police inspector that they had voluntarily surrendered themselves. I was not asked to sign such a paper. They were told by the police inspector that the paper would be used in their favor before the court martial in England. We sent the mail aboard at Derry. We were ordered to keep away from the shore while the passengers for different points in Ireland were going ashore in the tourist bus. I refused them their possession of liberty.

In a postscript dated at Liverpool on the 3 inst, Ireland writes that he is to be taken a once, under a strong guard, to Striving castle for court martial.

"The state department," says Mrs. Ireland in a report, "has forwarded a demand for an explanation in my husband's case, as I am informal to Minister Lowell; but, as my husband's letter shows, Mr. Lowell had done nothing up to April 2. My husband was under a der when he enlisted and deserted."

New Oil Fields Near Richmond.

PITTSBURGH, April 17.—The residents of Edinworth, seven miles below this city, are excited over another promising oil field. Early last fall a company was organized for sinking a well at the head waters of Lowry Run. Mount Noto, about three miles north of Edinworth, was decided upon as the most promising location. The drills have been a work all winter until within the last few weeks, when the tools struck the well. About a week ago work was resumed at a depth of about 150 feet. The tools were drawn when the oil filled the well to a depth of about 500 feet. If this well turns a good producer, it will probably have considerable effect upon the market. It is located in an entirely new territory, and would bring oil field within ten miles of Pittsburgh.

Death of a Life Saver.

PITTSBURGH, April 17.—Chris Bradford, a famous life saver, died here of pneumonia. He was about thirty-two years of age. As a swimmer he was noted for his daring and endurance. In 1875, when Paul Boynton, who had organized a life saving service along the coast, went to Europe, Chris, with his brothers Ned and Mike, took his place and have since been saving lives every summer at Atlantic City beach. It is said they have saved at that beach 925 lives.

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